

BARTON COUNTY DEMOCRAT.

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THERE is a little item of railroad assessment that deserves some comment. In the valuation of railroad property for the purpose of taxation, Barton county stands twenty-fourth in the state, being considerably ahead of Reno county, and far ahead of any other county in the state, west of our east county line.

At the time the Oleomargarine bill became a law it was thought that the manufacture of bogus butter would be practically stopped. But such has not been the case, as the following figures which we have compiled from a recent publication will show: There are 37 factories engaged now in making it, of which number Chicago has 11, while Kansas City has only one. There are 3,537 retail dealers who have paid a special tax for the privilege of selling it and 266 who are wholesale dealers. The total amount sold in November, December, January and February was 12,645,740 pounds.

ALMOST every town in southwest Kansas has a brick yard, which goes to prove that Kansas clay is good for something besides agriculture. Great Bend has now brick yards which are turning out some of as handsome brick as can be found in the state. Every year's experience in handling our clay enables the manufacturer to better understand its composition and the mode of manipulation necessary to make a strong and perfect brick. Some buildings are being fronted with our home-made pressed brick, and the difference between this brick and the Kansas City pressed brick is so small that it takes an experienced eye to detect it.

EVERY Kansas paper is interested in getting before the eyes of the eastern man the fact that we have broad lands and cheap lands, lands that will bring forth the finest crops in the known world, broad prairies that are open to all who wish to tiller their heaving bosoms and receive the reward of plenty and prosperity. There is another element in the east whose attention we should make an effort to obtain, viz: the girls. Kansas has 100,000 more males than females! Girls, come out! come out!! Come to this land which is really "flowing with milk and honey" and strong yeomanry with large hearts and willing hands. Come out and take a "claim."

THE people of Barton county are soon to decide whether they will have another railroad through the county. The DEMOCRAT has said repeatedly that it would be greatly beneficial to the county as well as this city to have a third line running to this place. The interests of the county and the principal towns therein are identical. If Great Bend should become a city of fifteen thousand inhabitants every acre of land in the county would increase in value. Or if Ellinwood should grow to be a city of two thousand inhabitants all the land in that part of the county would be more valuable than it is now. We are prompted to say this from the fact that there is often a feeling among farmers that railroads benefit towns only. The fact is the farmers of Barton county are as vitally interested in this matter as the residents of either Great Bend or Ellinwood. We hope that this question will be considered fairly and without prejudice, with a feeling that we should do that which will do the most good for the majority.

HUTCHINSON is one of the most progressive towns in this part of Kansas, or in the whole state, as to that matter. That town some time ago recognized the fact that it must have railroads or it could never hope to compete with its rivals. Hutchinson has, probably, done as much in the way of securing roads in the past twelve months as any town in the state, and the result is that it has had the most remarkable growth during that time of any town in Kansas, with, probably, one exception. Great Bend has now the prospect of securing a road which will be of equal advantage to both places—this and Hutchinson. The people of that town are fully persuaded that it would be greatly to their advantage to have this road, notwithstanding they already have, or soon will have, the Rock Island, Missouri Pacific and two lines of the Santa Fe. Certainly if Hutchinson can afford to pay to get the Midland, so can we. It is a fact patent to every man who has given the subject the least attention, that the towns in Kansas which get the railroads are the coming business centers. Nature has blessed them all alike, or very nearly so, and those which hold the roads will hold the winning card.

THE gale has blown over and no one is hurt. The partisan leaders of the Republican party tried to raise a tremendous breeze in regard to the order of the president to distribute the flags which were captured in the recent civil war. There was certainly never a more palpable exhibition of the buncombe used by that party than this. Admitting, for the sake of an argument, that the order was wrong in spirit, who is to blame? A prominent Grand Army man and Republican first suggested it, and the president, in a spirit of generosity and magnanimity, yielded to his suggestion. After duly considering the matter, he afterwards decided that such an order should originate with Congress and not with the chief executive. That is the whole matter stated concisely and truly. When the president made the order, he was but following the teaching of Charles Sumner and Horace Greeley, who years ago taught the people that every symbol which would serve to recall the bitter feelings which brought our fraternal strife, should be removed from public gaze. The man who first suggested the distribution, was as brave a man as ever wore the blue, and we will venture the assertion that he is the superior of any man who traduces him for this act, both in bravery and patriotism. The president, probably, acted hastily in making the order, for he was, probably, trenching on ground which belongs to Congress when he did. But whatever his fault might have been in this respect, it was more than outbalanced by his manly order rescinding the former, when he had properly considered the matter. So far as hurting President Cleveland is concerned, this act will benefit him. It will show that his friends have not overestimated his qualities when they claim that he is honest and brave.

ONCE in a while, in our daily intercourse with men, we meet with one of those despicable characters who is always foremost and active in talking up schemes of public benefit, but whose interest and influence never extends as far as his pocket. As a general rule too, he is a man who is more greatly benefited by the proposed enterprise than any one else. While we deplore the existence of such people in our midst, and would like to disfranchise them from any voice in public affairs or any benefits resulting therefrom, we don't see that we can do better than go right ahead and do what in our judgment is best for the community, regardless of whether the few persons in question do their proportionate share or not.

THE legislature of New York has set a very sensible example which should be speedily followed by the other states of the Union. The act alluded to is in regard to the heating of passenger coaches on railroads. It provides that after May, 1888, stoves shall no longer be used by any of the roads in that state. As every one who has investigated the subject knows the most serious results in case of railway accidents are usually directly from fires originating from the stoves. Besides, it has been demonstrated that coaches can be warmed much better by steam. It is to be hoped that our next body of solons will consider this subject.

ON WITH the gas-well prospect. This great, round world of ours is full of wonders. On its surface we get bread and meat and drink and raiment, and from its unknown depths we are furnished with heat and light. Earth's store houses are full and we need but to stretch out our hands and gather in her treasures. We do not always know how near to our doors these store-houses are. Let us reach down into the unknown depths and bring forth light.

Kansas Patents.

S. A. Haseltine & Bro. Patent Solicitors Springfield, Missouri, send us the following list of Patents which were issued to citizens of Kansas during the past week:

Grain-cleaning machine, W. A. Laidlaw, Cherokee; stovepipe attachment for flues, A. M. Mealy, Coldwater; flambeau, E. F. Vaughn and C. States, Topeka; washing machine, M. V. A. Watson, Altamont.

Scott City has opened the fur and is now circulating a petition for removing the land office from WaKeeney to that place. It is hard to predict what will be the result, but those who have had experience in removing land offices say that it is rather a difficult matter.

Exchange Cleanings.

Three thousand dollars have been subscribed at Osage Mission to prospect for coal or gas.

Pottawatomie county has voted \$275,000 for an extension of the Missouri Pacific.

It is said that Kansas is building more school houses in proportion to her population than any other state in the union.

The Topeka Democrat says there is a new town in Ness county called Fonchalanta. Our understanding has always been that the name was Nonchalanta.

The Topeka Democrat rejoices and is exceedingly glad because Mayor Metsker has vetoed the Occupation Tax ordinance. It is hardly probable that the city council will pass the ordinance over the veto.

Month after month the gauge of the Kansas boom has gone above high water mark—above the limits assigned by the croakers. There are still a few who can't see how this thing can last. Time will show them. Kansas, this fall, is going to have the "boomingest" old boom she ever did have. Let the doubters get ready to fall at the end of the procession, as usual.

The latest postal laws are such that newspaper men can have anyone arrested for fraud who takes a paper and refuses to pay for it. Under this law the man who allows his subscription to run along for some time unpaid, and then orders it discontinued, or orders the postmaster to mark it "refused," and to send a postal card notifying the publisher, lays himself liable to arrest and fine, the same as for theft, etc.

FROM CLARENCE.

Harvest is over. Lee Bird is dangerously ill. Miss — is visiting her sister, Mrs. Lee.

Henry Gagerman's new residence is an elegant structure.

A coat of paint now beautifies Mr. Martin's new house.

Mrs. Marquet Jurgensen is still upon the sick list.

Mr. Wilkison, of Lane county, is the guest of M. D. Bird.

A number of our Dunkard brethren attended the national gathering at Ottawa, this state.

Never before did Clarence have such a large area of fine corn as now.

Clarence went en masse to Great Bend on the 16th to "see the doin's."

Mr. Hans Carstensen has been quite ill for a few days, but, we are pleased to say, is now convalescent.

Mr. John Bird returned recently from Comanche county, and reports good crops in his neighborhood.

Mr. Albert Ehrensperger expects to leave us soon and will court Dame Fortune midst the canons of Colorado.

Another shower of crystal drops came pattering down from the blue vault Thursday night and all is smiling, except the luckless chinch bugs, which, in consequence of the moisture, have ceased to be.

BUCKEYE.

The Doris & Colvin Circus.

Last night the vast tents of the Doris & Colvin circus were crowded to their utmost capacity. Many thousands had assembled to see the great shows. The circus is surprisingly good and pleased the people beyond expectation. The show when it came was comparatively unknown, having never showed in this city before, and Cincinnati with her critical audiences shied for awhile and fought against being captured. But Cincinnati will always recognize merit, whenever and wherever found, and last night she proved this by the manner in which people flocked to the show. The people discovered that it was away above the average and first-class in every respect. The performance last night was such as to please the most rigid of conventional circus-kickers, and the hippodrome and Wild west departments were surprisingly good. The show has earned, and deservedly, a first-class reputation here, and last night's audience will be but the forerunner of many future ones if Doris & Colvin will pay us visits in the future. The show kept its promises and beat the record.—Cincinnati Times-Star, May 7, 1887.

This circus will be at Great Bend on the 18th of August, and will undoubtedly be the show of the season.

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